

THE EIGHTY-FIRST REPORT
OF THE
COMMISSIONERS
OF
NATIONAL EDUCATION IN IRELAND,
SCHOOL YEAR, 1914-15.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.



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1916

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1916.

[Cd. 8341.]

Price 2½d.

No. 11806.

DUBLIN CASTLE,

21st August, 1916.

GENTLEMEN,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th ultimo, forwarding, for submission to His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, the Eighty-first Report of the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. O'FARRELL.

The Secretaries,

Office of National Education,
Dublin.

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THE
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COMMISSIONERS OF NATIONAL EDUCATION
IN IRELAND.
SCHOOL YEAR, 1914-15.

TO
HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE IVOR
CHURCHILL, BARON WIMBORNE,

LORD LIEUTENANT-GENERAL AND GENERAL GOVERNOR OF
IRELAND.

May it please Your Excellency,

WE, the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland, have the honour to submit to Your Excellency this our Eighty-first Report. In this report the statistics of attendance, numbers on the rolls, etc., in the schools, are for the year ended the 31st December, 1914, the financial statements are for the year ended the 31st March, 1915, and the general information is brought up to the 31st December, 1915.

In submitting this Report we have to point out that its preparation has been delayed owing to the fact that our last Report, that for the school year 1913-14, which was duly submitted to the Irish Government on 28th September, 1914, for presentation to Parliament, has so far been withheld from publication.

In common with other administrative departments during the present period of financial stress, we have given anxious thought to the question of making such economies in our expenditure as are not inconsistent with the important interests committed to our charge. We recognise that in the critical circumstances of the time it is not reasonable to expect that money can be found, as in time of peace, to carry on to a full extent the usual work of administration, and still less to provide for any new developments, necessary and desirable as they may seem, in the educational system that we administer. We must be content to know that in the most important part of our expenditure—that which provides for the training and maintenance of the teaching staffs of the national schools and for the supervision and inspection of the work done in them—our needs have been met by the Treasury, notwithstanding that the natural growth of the system requires an automatic increase in the estimate of expenditure for teachers' salaries from year to year. We are cognisant that in any circumstances the increase in the cost of living all over the country must have pressed hardly on the national teachers, and we feel it due to them to recognise that these privations have been patiently and courageously endured by the great majority of the workers in our schools.

Shortly after the commencement of the War we received notification from the Treasury that it was necessary to suspend all grants and loans for the building and improvement of school-houses and teachers' residences, with the exception of cases where contracts for the execution of the works sanctioned had already been entered into. In intimating this decision, the Treasury stated that they were fully aware that many cases of unsatisfactory accommodation still remained to be dealt with, but that the serious financial position made it urgent to postpone new undertakings of the kind in the present emergency. They agreed, however, that in case a school would otherwise have to be closed, a grant might be made for rebuilding, provided the special sanction of Their Lordships was first obtained for the execution of the work.

In addition to the saving thus effected, amounting to £65,000 per annum, we have agreed to large economies in the printing of annual publications issued by us, such as the reduction and simplification of the statistical returns published in our Annual Report, the appendices to which will not at present be printed. We have suspended the rule hitherto in operation by which a junior assistant mistress was required to be replaced by a graded teacher in every national school when it was found that an average attendance of 50 or more pupils was maintained. A further proposal has been approved under which our inspectors will in future undertake the inspection and examination of the Industrial and Reformatory schools (with five or six exceptions), thereby relieving the Parliamentary vote for the expenses of these schools of a considerable charge which would otherwise continue to be placed upon it.

In view of the pecuniary loss that might result to teachers owing to a decline in the attendance at the national schools, we have been empowered, by arrangement with the Treasury, to make some allowance for this circumstance in cases where the falling-off in the numbers is due to the shortage of labour in rural districts caused by enlistment in the army or navy, so that no reduction in the teacher's emoluments may take place from this cause.

During the period under review we have given earnest consideration to the recommendations set forth in the Final Report of the Viceregal Committee of Inquiry of 1913, with a view to their adoption in regard to our system of payment of teachers and inspection of national schools. To aid us in our deliberations, we invited the suggestions of the school managers and teachers, and we have had the advantage of conferences with representatives of both of these bodies on various occasions. Our proposals to give effect to the recommendations of the Committee fell naturally under two heads, viz., those of a financial nature which required Treasury sanction in view of the expenditure of public funds that would be involved, and those of an administrative character not calling for any increase in the Education Vote,

The proposals requiring Treasury sanction were submitted to the Irish Government in July, 1914. They comprised a new scale of salaries for teachers in which annual increments were provided instead of the triennial increases of the present scale, coupled with the abolition of the restrictions as to the number of teachers that may be recognised in each grade above the third. In this way much more rapid promotion would be secured for deserving teachers than is possible under the existing rules. We also pressed for sanction for our scheme of special bonuses for the principal teachers of large and important schools, which we have been urging upon the Government for the past seven or eight years. These proposals involved a considerable increase, both immediate and prospective, in the Vote for teachers' salaries, but we are satisfied that no system of annual increments can be introduced with advantage which does not secure more liberal payments under the head of grade salaries. It was also proposed to make certain additions to the capitation grants payable to the conductors of convent and monastery national schools, who owing to the difference in the system of payment would not otherwise share in the improvement in incomes proposed to be given to teachers of ordinary national schools. A further proposal requiring increased expenditure was the appointment of four of our senior inspection staff to the rank of Divisional Inspector for the purpose of special supervision of the ordinary inspection work with a view particularly to securing a better standard of uniformity of judgment concerning the merit of the schoolwork and the teachers. These appointments were strongly approved by the Viceregal Committee, who criticised the system of inspection on which the increments and promotions of teachers depend as being defective in respect of uniformity as between one circuit and another.

We have to regret that these proposals, which were submitted to the Government shortly before the outbreak of the present disastrous War, did not, in view of the obvious need for economy and the restricting of all new expenditure, receive Treasury sanction, but we hope that at some future date they may receive full and earnest consideration from the Irish Executive. Before turning to detail the administrative changes that we have made, we may, however, mention that we have obtained sanction to give effect to the fifth recommendation of the Committee, which is as follows:—"That until a system of annual increments is introduced, a teacher shall only lose the amount of his increment for that year in which his report is unsatisfactory." A rule embodying this proposal and taking effect from 1st April, 1915, will appear in the next issue of the Code.

The modifications which did not require Treasury sanction were introduced at the commencement of the present school-year and were set forth in a circular issued in March, 1915, in the following terms:—

1. The present system of assigning merit-marks to schools and teachers shall be discontinued (except in the case of

Convent and Monastery schools paid by capitation). The inspector shall be required to state in his General Report whether the teacher's service is or is not of such a character as to qualify him for promotion, and also to give the name of any teacher whose service is not of such a character as to qualify him for increments of "good service salary" under Rule 108 (b). The replies of the inspectors under these heads shall be transmitted to the manager and the teachers concerned along with the Minute and any other extracts from the General Report bearing on the work of the teacher. In order to warrant promotion the teacher's work should, in the inspector's opinion, be of an efficient character during the period under review in the report: for promotion to I² or I¹ grade a higher standard of work should be expected. A careful record of the work of each teacher shall be kept in the Circuit Register.

2. The cases of promotion and increment shall be dealt with at the Education Office by the officer at present charged with this duty, or his successor, who will be selected specially from the inspectorate for the purpose.

3. The system of inspection as laid down in previous circulars shall be followed, with these changes:—

- (a) Three clear days' notice of the visit, subsequent to which the General Report is to be furnished, shall be given to the manager and to the teacher, and it is hoped that the managers and others interested will avail themselves of the opportunity thus afforded of seeing for themselves the progress made by the various classes. In the case, however, of schools which have maintained a high standard of merit for several years the notified visit may be dispensed with for not more than two consecutive school years, and the General Report on such schools may be furnished in these years after an ordinary incidental inspection without notice to manager or teacher.
- (b) At this notified visit the inspector shall confine himself largely to testing the proficiency of the classes as a whole.
- (c) In the General Report furnished after the notified visit the results of the inspector's experience at this and other visits since the date of the previous General Inspection shall be embodied.

4. The inspector's Observation Book shall in future be called the Inspector's Suggestion Book, and shall be used exclusively for such suggestions as the inspector may consider helpful to the teacher. The inspector shall, in conference with the teacher, make such suggestions as may be helpful to him in his work, and, for the future guidance of the teacher, the substance of the hints given at this conference shall be entered in the Suggestion Book. Suggestions as to the improvement of the school buildings, the furniture, the equipment, etc., are to be made to the manager orally or in writing.

5. An appeal made against an inspector's report must be lodged by the teacher within fourteen days of the receipt of the report by the manager and the teacher ; if, however, the report be received during the time of the school vacation, the fourteen days shall be counted from the date of the re-opening of the school. The chief inspectors having taken all the circumstances into consideration may, if they consider it desirable, recommend a re-inspection. An appeal made against an inspector's report must be sent in duplicate to the inspector on the date on which it is forwarded to the Education Office. The inspector will be required to furnish without delay any observations he desires to make regarding the appeal. The inspector's observations may, if necessary, be sent to the manager and the teacher for their information.

6. All instructions by circulars issued to inspectors which bear upon the work of the schools shall be issued simultaneously to managers and to teachers.

7. In the case of an enquiry ordered by the Commissioners legal assistance may be allowed as at present, viz. ; except in cases of inefficiency or neglect of duty ; any investigation directed by the Board shall be held as at present by the senior or chief inspector.

8. Before the adoption of any new regulations of sufficient importance, or likely to prove contentious, full opportunity shall be afforded to managers, teachers, and other persons interested, by conference or written communication, to lay their views before the Board.

Since the issue of these regulations one or two slight modifications have been made in the first paragraph of the circular at the request of the teachers, and the question of some further amendments is at present under consideration.

From the above it will be seen that we have given effect, so far as it lies in our power, to almost all the Committee's recommendations. Where we have not adopted them in their entirety we have done so with changes in detail such as seemed warranted by our experience. There remains but one recommendation which we have wholly rejected, viz., No. 7, which proposes a redistribution of inspectors' districts so that the sole responsibility for reporting on the schools of a district shall rest on one inspector. We consider this proposal unsuitable, and it is apparently quite contrary to the general trend of the Committee's report. Under our present system of inspection the judgment of two officers is at once available when an uncertainty arises regarding the efficiency of a school, and we are unable to understand how greater uniformity would be secured if each of sixty inspectors were isolated from a colleague with whom he might confer in cases of doubt.

The number of school gardens sanctioned in the school year *School* 1914-15 amounted to 101. Nearly half of these (47) were in the *Gardens*.

counties of Carlow, Kildare, Queen's, and Limerick, very few other counties having more than one or two each. The gardens are inspected by the officers of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, and the reports received are of a very encouraging nature. The difficulty of securing suitable plots and the want of qualifications for such instruction in the teachers are the chief causes that hinder the spread of these institutions; the Department is doing much to remove the latter disability by holding horticultural courses for teachers at the College of Science, Dublin, and a large number of teachers show anxiety to attend. Instruction in rural science and horticulture is now given to the King's Scholars of the De La Salle and Marlborough Street Training Colleges, in the latter of which institutions the work has met with particular success. This is a branch of instruction which we consider worthy of special encouragement in national schools, and we desire to recommend it strongly to school managers, and especially to those in rural districts.

*Provi-
sion of
Meals
Act.*

Since our last report was furnished, the Education (Provision of Meals) (Ireland) Act, 1914, has become law. Section 3 of this Act enables local authorities, with the sanction of the Local Government Board, to defray out of the rates the cost of providing food for national school pupils. The amount that may be spent for this purpose in any financial year is not to exceed the sum that would be produced by a rate of one halfpenny in the pound levied over the area administered by the authority. The application to the Local Government Board for sanction to expend money under the Act is to be made pursuant to a resolution of the local authority setting forth that there are children attending a national school within their area who are unable, by reason of lack of food, to take full advantage of the education provided for them and that funds other than public funds are not available, or are insufficient in amount, to defray the cost of food that may be furnished in meals under the Act. The sanction required by the Section mentioned above has been given by the Local Government Board in the case of the following areas, viz.:—The County Boroughs of Cork and Dublin, and the Newry, Kingstown, Wexford, Listowel, Athy and Cavan Urban Districts.

*Dental
Clinics.*

In the year ended 31st March, 1915, we made grants amounting to £801 to local parties in connection with the provision of dental clinics for national school pupils. In the financial year 1912/13 funds were for the first time placed at our disposal for this purpose, a sum of £7,500 being set down in our estimates under this head, but we were able to expend only £263 2s. 6d. in that year. In the following year we spent £498 7s. 3d. The expenditure as stated above in 1914-15 falls far short of the amount that we were enabled to spend should the scheme of dental inspection be generally taken up. It is almost needless to say that the condition attached to these grants, that half the expense of the clinic must be defrayed locally, renders it very unlikely that

dental inspection and treatment will make much advance in the schools, so long as there is no power to raise a local rate for the purpose by the County Councils.

We have recently considered the question of providing instruction in *Instruction in Woodwork.* In woodwork for national school pupils, and just before the outbreak of the War we were in correspondence with the Treasury with a view to obtaining the necessary funds to enable us to pay grants for instruction in this branch at technical schools. We had agreed with the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction that a suitable course of lessons in woodwork could be arranged for national school pupils at the various technical schools at a cost of 11s. 8d. per pupil, and in consequence of the great need for such training in Irish cities and towns we were anxious that an opportunity for teaching this branch should be provided. Unfortunately, owing to the War, it has been necessary to postpone the matter, but we have been informed by the Irish Government that our request will receive favourable consideration when circumstances may permit. Centres for woodwork instruction are now available for elementary pupils in most of the larger towns of England and Scotland.

It is now over three years since we determined to admit *Third Year's Training Course for Teachers* teachers who had already undergone the usual two years' course of training in one of the recognised colleges to a third year's course to be carried on in connection with a course of study in a University. The course is confined to teachers of promise who have shown special aptitude for their work. In the past three sessions, 79 teachers (76 men and 3 women) successfully completed the course, and in the current session 25 teachers (all men) have entered the colleges for the purpose. Special advantages in respect to grade promotion are open to teachers taking the third year's course, and they are eligible after three years' service for principalships of large schools with an average attendance of 95 pupils or above. They are, moreover, qualified by passing this course for the award of our Higher Teachers' Certificate on satisfying the condition of high efficiency in school-keeping laid down in the regulations. The Higher Certificate, which was instituted about three years ago, has now been granted to 33 national teachers. The requirements consist of high scholastic or professional attainments on the one hand, together with a total of five years' satisfactory service (of which at least three years must be very favourably reported on) in the actual work of teaching.

During the year ended 31st March, 1915, we awarded *Promotions of Teachers* promotion to higher grades to 220 principal teachers who had successfully complied with the ordinary conditions prescribed in our rules. Of these teachers 23 were promoted to the first section of first grade, 53 to the second section of first grade, and the remainder, 144, to the second grade.

Besides these ordinary cases of promotion we have also considered the special cases of certain principals and assistants of long service and exceptional efficiency. We have awarded special promotion to 168 principal teachers and 70 assistant teachers in the year ended 31st March, 1915. Of the principals, 42 (31 men and 11 women) were placed in the first section of first grade, 42 (23 men and 19 women) in second section of first grade, and 84 (41 men and 43 women) in second grade. All the 70 assistants (8 men and 62 women) received promotion to second grade. It is to be noted that assistants are not eligible for promotion beyond the third grade except in circumstances of an unusual character, where a very high standard of efficiency in school work has been maintained over a long period.

The number of teachers that may be recognised in each grade or section of a grade above the third is strictly limited by Treasury regulation. As mentioned in our last report, we made a readjustment of these numbers, by arrangement with the Treasury, in August, 1913, and the following table shows the maximum numbers allotted to each grade and the number of teachers in actual receipt of the corresponding grade salaries on 31st December, 1915 :—

	Men.			Women.		
	1 ¹	1 ²	2	1 ¹	1 ²	2
Maximum Number allowable in each Grade.	450	700	2,200	300	400	1,600
Actual Number serving.	436	615	1,706	288	357	1,339

Incre- Triennial increments of good service salary were awarded to
ments of 1,478 teachers in the year ended 31st March, 1915. Increases of
Salary to capitation rate were granted under the provisions of rule 117 (2)
Teachers to 28 convent national schools paid on the capitation system.

Com- During the period under review Robert Donovan, Esq., B.A.,
mission- and William E. Thrift, Esq., M.A., F.T.C.D., have been
ers. appointed Commissioners of National Education in succession to the Right Hon. Christopher Palles, Lord Chief Baron, P.C., LL.D., and Edward John Gwynn, Esq., M.A., F.T.C.D., respectively, resigned.

We now proceed to give Your Excellency detailed information under various heads.

School-houses and Teachers' Residences.

1. On the 31st December, 1914, there were 8,207 schools in operation, made up as follows :—

Ordinary Schools.	...	...	...	7,622
Convent "	...	...	...	350
Monastery "	...	...	...	57
Workhouse "	...	...	...	106
Model "	...	...	...	70
Fishery School,	...	...	...	1
Hospital School,	...	...	...	1*
Total, ...				8,207

This shows a decrease of 22 in the number of schools in operation when compared with the number on the 31st December, 1913. The decrease is in a considerable measure due to the amalgamation of adjoining boys' and girls' schools, or of small schools in the same locality. Owing to the buildings having been taken over by the military authorities, or to other causes, a number of workhouse national schools were not in operation.

2. Of these schools, 3,556 were vested schools, the remainder were non-vested. Vested Schools.

The vested schools include (a) those vested in the Commissioners, and (b) those vested in trustees, under deeds to which the Commissioners are a party, for the purpose of being maintained as National Schools.

The vested schools were distributed according to provinces as follows :—

Number of Vested Schools.					
Provinces.			Vested in the Commissioners.	Vested in Trustees.	Total.
Ulster,	...	...	253	648	931
Munster,	...	...	300	853	1,153
Leinster,	...	...	62	488	550
Connaught,	...	...	96	826	922
Total,	...	...	741	2,815	3,556

The non-vested schools include school-houses erected from funds locally provided, or, in a few instances, from loans available under the Act of 1884, 47 & 48 Vic., cap. 22, and schools formerly vested, the leases of which have expired. Non-Vested Schools.

* Under special authority from the Lords of His Majesty's Treasury, instruction is given each day, by a qualified national school teacher, to children (pupils) in the wards of the Incorporated Orthopaedic Hospital of Ireland, Dublin.

3. The erection and improvement of vested school premises are carried out under the direction of the Board of Public Works.

Building
Grants.

On the 1st April, 1914, the amount for which that Board was liable in respect of grants already made by us and notified to them was £98,112 15s. 10d. In addition to this sum, we had made grants amounting to £34,777 10s. 11d., which had not been ready for notification to the Board of Works. The total liabilities, therefore, on that date amounted to £132,890 6s. 9d.

4. The following statement shows the condition of the grants and liabilities on 1st April, 1915 :—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Unexpended Grants on 1st April, 1914, ...	132,890	6	9			
Grants to build and improve School-houses, made in 1914-15, ...	42,542	15	8			
				175,433	2	5
Deduct—						
(a) Grants cancelled, not having been utilized	4,918	9	2			
(b) Deductions owing to omitted or defective works, ...	355	9	10			
(c) Instalments paid by Board of Works on account during year ended 31st March, 1915, ...	58,840	11	6			
				64,114	10	6
Total liabilities on 1st April, 1915, ...				£111,318	11	11

The grants made by us during the year ended 31st March, 1915, were apportioned as follows :—

Erection of New Vested School-houses.			Enlargement of Existing Vested School-houses.			Other Improvements to existing Vested School-houses.			TOTAL GRANTS.
No. of School-houses.	No. of Pupils for which the New School-houses will afford Accommodation.	Amount of Grant.	No. of School-houses.	No. of Pupils for which Additional Accommodation will be provided.	Amount of Grant.	No. of School-houses.	Amount of Grant.		
		£ s. d.			£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
44	4,316	29,363 5 7	18	913	6,615 19 0	361	6,613 13 1	42,542 15 8	

In 38 cases of the erection of new school-houses grants amounting in the aggregate to £3,157 2s. 9d. in excess of the normal grants were made, as the schools are to be built in needy and congested districts. Similarly in 76 improvement cases grants in excess of the normal were sanctioned to the amount of £1,201 9s. 2d.

* This amount includes supplemental grants towards the building of vested school houses in 54 cases which were sanctioned in previous years.

5. We approved of applications to the Board of Works for loans, to the amount of £250 for enlarging and otherwise improving existing non-vested school-houses. Loans for improvement of schools.

We also approved of loans in 11 cases to provide teachers' residences, and in 5 cases to improve existing residences. The total amount of the loans approved for residences was £3,580. Loans for Residences.

Since the year 1875, when the National School Teachers Residences (Ireland) Act came into force, 1,966 applications for loans, and 82 applications for grants, have been approved by us. In a large percentage of cases, however, the Teachers are as yet unprovided with suitable residences.

On the 31st December, 1914, according to returns received from the managers, teachers' residences were connected with 2,297 ordinary schools. In 1,160 of these cases the residence was free of rent to the teacher; the annual letting value of such residences being estimated at £8,661. Teachers Residences.

6. According to the Returns furnished by the school managers the local expenditure on the schools was as follows :— Local aid towards building and repairing school-houses, school prizes, &c.

Nature of Expenditure.	Amount.		
	£	s.	d.
New Buildings, additions to schoolhouse, and repairs, ...	70,453	1	1
Repayment of loans for the erection or improvement of the schoolhouse or teacher's residence, payment of interest on the loan, or rent, insurance, &c., on the school buildings,	11,514	19	9
Prizes and premiums to Pupils,	11,956	16	6
Heating and cleaning,*	40,282	19	3
Other expenditure,	3,932	11	1
	£138,140	7	8

The local aid to the salaries of the teaching staffs amounted to £17,209 12s. 6d.

Day Schools in Operation : Attendance.

7. On the 31st of December, 1914, we had 8,207 schools in operation. During the year 1914, 79 schools were brought into operation—viz., 58 vested in the Commissioners or in trustees, and 21 non-vested. In 92 cases the grants were either suspended or withdrawn.

* A payment of state grant in relief of the local expenditure for heating and cleaning of the schools was made during the year (see p. 26).

Operative
and
Inoperative
schools.

8. In addition to the schools in operation on the 31st December, 1914, 250 to which building grants had been made were not completely built, and 26 other schools were also inoperative for various reasons (being 9 in excess of the number inoperative in the preceding year).

The following is a general summary of the operative, building, and inoperative schools, on 31st December, 1914 :—

County.	Operative Schools.	*Building Schools.	Inoperative Schools.
Antrim	657	10	3
Armagh	260	2	—
Cavan	250	10	—
Donegal	423	14	1
Down	484	6	2
Fermanagh	175	5	—
Londonderry	277	6	1
Monaghan	176	4	1
Tyrone	348	11	—
Clare	250	10	2
Cork	695	21	2
Kerry	368	19	1
Limerick	250	14	3
Tipperary	311	6	2
Waterford	138	2	—
Carlow	79	3	—
Dublin	327	13	—
Kildare	99	7	—
Kilkenny	166	19	1
King's	124	3	—
Longford	104	3	—
Louth	111	4	—
Meath	157	—	—
Queen's	113	—	1
Westmeath	132	3	—
Wexford	173	5	—
Wicklow	125	1	—
Galway	409	12	1
Leitrim	188	7	—
Mayo	418	13	1
Roscommon	239	11	1
Sligo	191	6	3
Totals, ...	8,207	*250	26

School
fees.

9. From the returns we have received, it appears that in 182 schools, fees amounting to £2,957 6s. 2d. were charged to pupils over 3 and under 15 years of age, and that all other schools were free to such pupils. In 120 schools, fees amounting to £267 12s. 6d. were received from pupils over 15 years of age, and in 186 schools, fees amounting to £2,074 6s. 5d. were paid by the pupils for instruction outside school hours in special subjects.

*In most cases these schools, when built, will supersede schools now operative.

10. (a.) The average number of pupils on the rolls of all the schools for the year was 700,265. Average on Rolls.

(b.) The average daily attendance of pupils for the year was 508,424. Average daily attendance.

(c.) The percentage of the average daily attendance of pupils to the average number on the rolls, was 72·6.

11. (a.) The average number of pupils over three and under fifteen years of age, the limits of age defined in the Act of 1892, sec. 18, sub-sec. (5), in daily attendance was 497,511. The total average attendance of those who were fifteen and above was 10,913, or 2·1 per cent. of the total number in average daily attendance.

(b.) The number of pupils over six and under fourteen years of age who made at least 75 attendances in the six months ended 30th June, 1914, was 344,844; and the corresponding number for the six months, ended 31st December, 1914, was 255,321. Attendance for at least 75 days.

12. The following table shows for the last ten years—
(a) the number of national schools in operation, (b) the average number of pupils on the rolls, (c) the average daily attendance, and (d) the percentage of the latter to the average number on the rolls:— Attendance in each of ten years.

Year.	Number of Schools in operation.	Average number of pupils on Rolls.	Average daily Attendance.	Per-centage of Average Daily Attendance to Average Number on Rolls.
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
1905	8,659	742,457	500,489	67·4
1906	8,603	739,009	493,558	66·8
1907	8,538	732,460	485,979	66·3
1908	8,468	708,902	494,662	69·8
1909	8,401	704,528	501,107	71·1
1910	8,337	699,945	495,962	70·8
1911	8,289	707,280	512,862	72·5
1912	8,255	699,353	499,038	71·3
1913	8,229	693,970	502,522	72·2
1914	8,207	700,265	508,424	72·6

13. The total number of pupils on the rolls of national schools on the 31st December, 1914, was 679,762. Total number on rolls.

MODEL SCHOOLS.

14. The number of Model school establishments in operation at the end of the year was 30. These contain 70 separate departments, each in operation with its own distinct staff and organization.

The average number of pupils on the rolls of the Model schools for the year was 8,798.

The average daily attendance of pupils at these schools for the year was 6,842.

The per-centage of the average daily attendance of day pupils for the year to the average number on the rolls was 77·8.

The staff of the Model schools on the 31st December, 1914, consisted of 70 principal teachers, 142 assistant teachers, 6 teachers of special subjects, 96 monitors, 71 pupil teachers and 4 junior assistant mistresses.

CONVENT AND MONASTERY SCHOOLS.

15. The numbers of these schools, and the attendances (excluding pupils who were paid for by the Industrial Schools Department) for the year 1914, were as follows:—

Paid solely by Capitation.			
Class of School.	Number of Schools.	Average Number of Pupils on Rolls.	Average Daily Attendance.
Convent,	315	98,948	75,690
Monastery,	2	1,133	809
Total,	317	100,081	76,499
Paid by Personal Salaries, &c.			
Class of School.	Number of Schools.	Average Number of Pupils on Rolls.	Average Daily Attendance.
Convent,	35	6,644	5,078
Monastery,	55	9,482	7,260
Total,	90	16,126	12,338

Lay assistants The teaching power in some convent and monastery schools (paid by capitation) is partly made up of lay assistants who, though not paid directly by us, are, where the Board's requirements as to grading, salary, etc., are complied with, granted valuable privileges in the matter of service, training, etc. On the 31st December, 1914, there were 582 lay assistants (of whom 437 were entitled to privileges) in 151 convent and monastery schools.

The average number of pupils on the rolls of the convent and monastery national schools for the year was 116,207.

The average daily attendance at these schools for the year was 88,837.

The percentage of the average daily attendance of pupils to the average number on the rolls was 76·4.

SUMMARY OF CONVENT AND MONASTERY NATIONAL SCHOOLS
ACCORDING TO RELIGIOUS ORDERS ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1914.

Religious
Orders.

CONVENT NATIONAL SCHOOLS.

Religious Order.	Schools paid by Capitation.	Schools paid by Personal Salaries, &c.	Total.
Sisters of Mercy,	163	17	180
Presentation	59	9	68
Sisters of Charity	26	—	26
St. Louis	6	8	14
Loreto	9	—	9
St. John of God	8	—	8
Sacred Heart	7	—	7
Sisters of St. Clare... ..	4	1	5
Brigidine	5	—	5
Cross and Passion	5	—	5
Dominican	4	—	4
Immaculate Conception	4	—	4
Ursuline	4	—	4
Sisters of Nazareth... ..	3	—	3
Carmelite	1	—	1
Faithful Companions of Jesus	2	—	2
St. Joseph	1	—	1
Marist	2	—	2
Poor Servants of the Mother of God and the Poor.	1	—	1
St. Joseph of Cluny	1	—	1
Total Convent National Schools ...	315	35	350

MONASTERY NATIONAL SCHOOLS.

Brothers of the Christian Schools ...	—	20	20
Presentation	2	12	14
Franciscan	—	10	10
Patrician	—	7	7
Marist	—	6	6
Total Monastery National Schools ...	2	55	57

WORKHOUSE SCHOOLS.

16. The number of workhouse schools in connection with our Board on 31st December, 1914, was 114, of which 106 were in operation.

The average number of pupils on the rolls of these workhouse schools during the year was 2,572, the total average daily attendance of pupils for the year was 2,257, and the average daily attendance of pupils of 3 to 15 years of age was 2,251.

ELEMENTARY EVENING SCHOOLS.

17. During the session 1914-15, 301 Elementary Evening Schools (including 19 Schools to which grants are payable under the alternative rules for Evening Schools in large urban centres) were in operation.

During the financial year payments amounting to £7,711 2s. 0d. were made in respect of Evening Schools. The average attendance of pupils at these schools (excluding the schools paid under the alternative rules) was 7,944.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL CHILDREN ATTENDING NATIONAL SCHOOLS.

18. In addition to the Baltimore Fishery Industrial National School there were 27 National Schools, attended by children from Industrial Schools (certified under the Industrial Schools Act). The number of these pupils on the rolls on the last day of the year was 298 boys and 1,054 girls—total, 1,352; and the average daily attendance was for pupils of all ages 1,269, and for those under 15 years of age, 1,251. These industrial school children are instructed in the same manner as the ordinary day pupils of the national school; but payment for their instruction is not made by us, but by the Industrial Schools Department.

Teaching Power.

19. The teachers in our service on 31st December, 1914, receiving personal salaries were as follows:—

Principals.		Assistants.		Total.	Junior Assistant Mistresses.	Work-mistresses.
Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.			
4,473	3,310	1,302	4,373	13,458	2,338	76
7,783		5,675				
Gross Total,		...	...	15,872		

There were also in the service 1 junior literary assistant and 42 industrial teachers.

New Teachers.

20. During the year ended 31st December, 1914, there were 584 persons appointed for the first time as principal or assistant teachers. Of these 465 had been trained in Training colleges and 119 were not so trained.

ANTECEDENTS OF NEW PRINCIPAL AND ASSISTANT TEACHERS
WHO WERE NOT TRAINED IN A TRAINING COLLEGE.

	Principals.			Assistants.			Total
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	
Served as Pupil Teachers or Journeymen only	—	4	4	—	39	39	43
† Served as Lay Assistants	—	—	—	—	5	5	5
†† „ Junior Assistant Masteresses	—	4	4	—	50	50	54
Teachers certificated under English or Scotch Department, but who had not been trained in a Training College	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
Members of Religious Orders	—	—	—	6	3	9	9
Other persons re-assigned	1	3	4	—	3	3	6
Total	1	14	15*	6	98	104	119

* 8 Temporary or conditional Appointments and 6 under Rule 76 (c).

† Of these 3 had previously been Masters or Pupil Teachers.

†† Of these 26 „ „ „ „ „ „ „

Teachers who Died or Retired from the Service.

21. During the year 73 teachers died and 434 others left the service. The causes of retirement, so far as they can be ascertained, are given in the following table :—

Cause of Retirement.	Men.		Women.		Totals.		
	Principals.	Assistants.	Principals.	Assistants.	Principals.	Assistants.	Totals.
1. Pensioned	33	3	33	34	138	37	175
2. Death	4	—	4	4	9	4	13
3. Ill-health, not pensioned	32	3	20	19	34	21	55
4. Married	1	3	1	—	2	10	12
5. Emigrated as teacher or otherwise	16	10	3	36	21	53	74
6. Change of profession	13	12	4	12	18	25	43
7. To teach in England or Scotland	4	6	4	10	6	16	22
8. To teach under other organisations	2	8	2	3	2	6	11
9. Dismissed by the Manager or by the Commissioners	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
10. Not known	4	3	10	14	14	17	31
Totals	101	45	131	170	292	213	507

Monitors and Pupil Teachers.

22. In the service on the 31st December, 1914:—

(a) MONITORS.

Date of Appointment.	Boys.		Girls.
	4 years Course.	3 years Course.	
1st July, 1912, ...	—	86	462
Do., 1913, ...	—	100	503
Do., 1914, ...	19	150	516
Totals, ...	19	336	1,481
355			
Total,			1,836

(b) PUPIL TEACHERS.

Date of Appointment.	3 years Course.		2 years Course.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
1st September, 1912, ...	16	71	—	—
Do., 1913, ...	18	94	3	22
Do., 1914, ...	20	125	4	35
Totals, ...	54	290	7	57
344		64		
Total,		408		

Annual Examinations.

23. Pupil teachers and monitors in their final year of service, candidates for admission to the Training colleges, provisionally recognised candidates for appointment as junior assistant mistresses, junior assistant mistresses seeking recognition as assistant teachers, and provisionally recognised teachers of Island schools, &c., seeking continued recognition, are examined at Easter.

King's scholars in training, and teachers seeking Certificates of competency to teach extra branches, are examined in the month of July.

The following is a summary of the persons examined in July, 1914 :—

King's Scholars at the end of their first year of Training,	612
King's Scholars at the end of their course of Training,...	543
Teachers examined for Certificates of competency to teach extra subjects,	141
Total,	1,296

The following were examined at Easter, 1915 :—

Candidate Junior Assistant Mistresses,	251
First-year Monitors in Co. Kerry (for Reid Prizes), ...	8
Monitors and Pupil Teachers in their final year, provisionally recognised Teachers and Candidates for Training,	1,868
Total,	2,127

Teachers' Pensions and Gratuities.

24. On 31st December, 1914, the Pensions granted were as follows :—

				Males.		Females.		Total.	
				No.	£	No.	£	No.	£
Total on 31st December, 1913	...	...	...	990	40,064	1,458	43,624	2,448	83,678
Pensions granted in 1914	For ill-health	...	...	4	48	9	63	13	111
	" " (Additional under the Rules of 1914).	...	...	†72	1,319	†112	1,355	†184	2,674
	On ordinary retirement	...	...	78	3,790	83	2,998	161	6,688
	" " (Additional under the Rules of 1914).	...	...	†505	5,020	†897	8,716	†1,402	13,736
Total				1,072	50,231	1,550	56,656	2,622	106,887
Pensions ceased in 1914	Through death	...	...	39	2,371	49	1,480	108	3,851
	Otherwise	...	...	2	12	1	4	3	16
Pensions payable on 31st December, 1914*				1,011	47,848	1,500	55,172	2,511	103,020

* Including the Supplemental Pensions under Pension Rule 21 (1897).

† These figures, representing the numbers of existing pensioners who received additional grants under Rule 21 (1914), do not increase the number of pensioners.

The number of Teachers paying premiums in the various classes on 31st December, 1914, was :—

Men,				Women,			
Class.				Class.			
1 st Grade.				1 st Grade.			
...	...	150	...	...	...	130	...
"	...	1	1,449	"	...	1	832
"	...	2	1,502	"	...	2	1,208
"	...	3	2,649	"	...	3	5,384
Total,				Total,			
5,750				7,554			

Income and Expenditure of the Pension Fund.

25. The following statement relative to the Pension Fund has been furnished to us by the Teachers' Pension Office :—

The Income and Expenditure of the Pension Fund during the year 1914, were as follows :—

Income :—	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Two half-year's Interest on £1,300,000...	39,000	0 0		
Interest on Stock	35,062	15 0		
Vote in aid,†	36,546	0 0		
Premiums paid by Teachers, ...	25,034	0 10		
			156,542	15 10
Expenditure :—				
Pensions paid to Teachers, ...	83,713	0 5		
Premiums refunded on Disablement ...	469	4 4		
Ditto on Resignation or Death,...	5,683	1 2		
			89,865	5 11
Surplus of Income over Expenditure,			66,677	9 11
Amount realized by sale of £17,470 9s. 7d. Stock, ...			13,544	5 5
Cash Balance on 1st January, 1914			676	13 5
			80,898	8 9
Sum invested in purchase of £89,215 7s. 4d. Stock, ...			77,883	6 5
Cash Balance on 31st December, 1914,			3,015	2 4

The invested Capital of the Fund stood thus :—

	£	s. d.
1st January, 1914, Debt of the Church Temporalities Fund, ...	1,300,000	0 0
Stock in hand,	£1,340,889	6 9
Stock bought in 1914	89,215	7 4
	1,430,104	14 1
Stock sold in 1914,	17,476	9 7
In hand 31st December, 1914,	£1,412,628	4 6
	£1,300,000	0 0

† Note.—The sum of £36,546 0s. 0d. in aid of the Teachers' Pension Fund was paid over by us within the year to the Fund.

Expenditure on the Schools and the Teaching Staffs for the Year 1914.

26. As far as we have been able to ascertain the expenditure on the Schools and the payments to the teaching staffs from all sources amounted to £1,783,531 9s. 8d., as shown in the following table, giving, on an average daily attendance for the year of 504,898 pupils, an average expenditure of £3 10s. 8d. for each child.

(a.) From State Grants :

I. From the grant for Primary Education :—	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Payments to the teachers	1,524,336	18	6						
Retiring gratuities ...	316	17	5						
Central Model Schools—									
School requisites ...	12	13	11						
Central Model Schools—									
Charing and Petty expenses ...	340	6	5						
Other Model Schools—									
School requisites ...	82	2	6						
Other Model Schools—									
Rents and Petty expenses ...	3,184	16	11						
Incidental expenses of schools (rents, van services, boat services, &c.)	755	3	8						
Free Stocks of school requisites to ordinary schools ...	399	6	6						
Equipment grants ...	920	13	3						
Examination Expenses :									
Employers' contributions for Health Insurance of Junior Assistant Mistresses, Monitors, &c. ...	2,810	14	10						
Moisties of rent charge on teachers' residences	6,865	0	4						
Grant for Heating and Cleaning Schools ...	17,899	11	0						
Dental Treatment of School Children ...	801	2	8						
				1,558,735	7	11			

II. From the vote for the Board of Public Works :—

Expenditure on building new schools, and the enlargement, improvement, and repair of existing vested schools

— 69,446 1 7

Total from State Grants

— 1,628,181 9 0

(b.) From Local sources :

Payments to the teachers (see p. 15) ...	—	17,209	12	6
New buildings, structural improvements, repairs, painting, &c., and school furniture ...	—	70,453	1	1
Other expenditure (see p. 15) ...	—	67,687	6	7

Total from Local sources

— 155,350 0 2

Total expenditure on the schools and teaching staffs,

Is,	...	...	...	1,783,531	9	8
Rate per pupil from (a) State Grants	...	...	...	3	4	6
Rate per pupil from (b) Local Sources	...	...	...	0	6	2
Rate per pupil from all Sources	...	...	...	£3	10	8

27. The amounts paid by the State in the financial year 1914-15 to the Teaching Staffs of the *principal classes* of day National schools were as follows :—

Class of Schools. (Excluding Poor Law Union, and Diocesan Schools, and profits paid for by Industrial Schools Department).	No. of Schools.	Average daily attendance.	Total State Aid to Teaching Staff.	Average pay- ment per pupil in average daily attendance.
			£	£ s. d.
1. Ordinary schools (in- cluding Hospital School).	7,623	409,219	1,275,095	3 2 4
2. Model schools, ...	70	6,842	28,390	4 3 0
3. Convent and Monastery schools (Personal Salaries, &c.) ...	90	12,338	33,896	2 14 11
4. Convent and Monastery schools (Capitation)	317	76,409	179,562	2 6 11
Total, ...	8,100	504,898	1,516,943	3 0 1

28. Table showing the numbers of Principal and Assistant Teachers in receipt of the salary of the undermentioned Grades on the 31st December, of each of the following years up to the year 1913, inclusive; for the year 1915 the date taken is the 31st March :—

Year.	MEN.										Total num- ber of Mas- ters.
	PRINCIPALS.					ASSISTANTS.					
	I. Grade	I. Grade	II. Grade	III. Grade	Total	I. Grade	I. Grade	II. Grade	III. Grade	Total	
1901	241	416	1,283	2,725	4,665	13	18	25	994	1,050	5,715
1904	268	430	1,487	2,449	4,634	15	15	13	1,118	1,161	5,795
1907	313	445	1,598	2,191	4,547	16	14	7	1,183	1,220	5,767
1910	325	475	1,663	2,013	4,476	11	12	8	1,190	1,221	5,697
1911	325	476	1,695	1,991	4,487	10	10	8	1,236	1,264	5,751
1912	325	483	1,750	1,927	4,485	10	10	20	1,241	1,281	5,766
1913	383	566	1,667	1,863	4,479	8	12	25	1,249	1,294	5,773
1915	419	571	1,655	1,818	4,463	9	10	29	1,258	1,306	5,769

(OVER.)

38—continued.

WOMEN.

Year.	PRINCIPALS.					ASSISTANTS.					Total number of Mistresses.
	I. Grade.	II. Grade.	III. Grade.	IV. Grade.	Total	I. Grade.	II. Grade.	III. Grade.	IV. Grade.	Total	
1901	208	282	845	2,235	3,570	11	26	29	2,546	2,612	6,182
1904	222	303	987	2,126	3,638	8	17	25	2,798	2,848	6,486
1907	224	312	1,000	2,018	3,554	10	13	32	3,329	3,384	6,938
1910	243	310	1,015	1,846	3,414	11	16	55	3,636	3,718	7,132
1911	248	312	1,001	1,803	3,364	11	15	66	3,826	3,918	7,282
1912	253	320	980	1,769	3,331	11	14	141	3,951	4,117	7,448
1913	259	327	1,024	1,711	3,321	7	16	179	4,037	4,239	7,660
1915	265	336	1,048	1,636	3,285	8	13	239	4,114	4,374	7,659

29. AVERAGE RATES of INCOME, from State sources, of Principal and Assistant teachers (Men and Women) serving on 31st March, 1915, exclusive of grants for Special Subjects, and fees for Evening School instruction :—

—			Principals.			Assistants.		
			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Men	...	...	114	17	11	82	8	2
Women	...	...	92	5	0	69	2	1

The similar rates for each grade were as follows :—

	PRINCIPALS.								ASSISTANTS.							
	I. Grade.		II. Grade.		III. Grade.		IV. Grade.		I. Grade.		II. Grade.		III. Grade.		IV. Grade.	
...	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
mon	186	16 1	147	1 3	118	9 9	84	19 1	178	10 7	147	1 6	111	16 5	80	16 6
	156	14 5	126	10 3	101	9 2	68	17 5	142	19 11	128	4 7	93	19 8	67	4 3

30.

Training Colleges.

Name of College.	Manager.	Date from which recognised.	Number of King's Scholars for which at present licensed.	
			Men.	Women.
"Marlborough-street" (Dublin).	The Commissioners of National Education.	1834	130	165
"St. Patrick's" (Drumcondra, Dublin).	His Grace the Most Rev. W. J. Walsh, D.D., Archbishop of Dublin.	1 Sept., 1882	165	—
"Our Lady of Mercy" (Carysfort Park, Bl'rock, Co. Dublin).	Do.	1 Sept., 1882	—	209
"Church of Ireland" (Kilmore Place, Dublin).	His Grace the Most Rev. J. P. Prescoe, D.D., Archbishop of Dublin.	1 Sept., 1884	40	85
"De la Salle" (Waterford).	The Most Rev. B. A. Sheehan, D.D., Bishop of Waterford and Lismore.	1 Sept., 1891	204	—
"St. Mary's" (Bellinist).	Vacancy	1 Sept., 1900	—	160
"Mary Immaculate" (Limerick).	The Most Rev. R. T. O'Dwyer, D.D., Bishop of Limerick.	1 Sept., 1901	—	160
			545	650
			1,195	

31. The following Table shows the number of candidates for admission to training (two years' course)* in 1914 in each of the Training colleges and the antecedents of those admitted:—

	Number of Candidates.	Number admitted to Training.	ANTECEDENTS.						
			Principals.	Assistants.	Junior Assistant Mistresses.	Substitute Teachers.	Monitors.	Pupil Teachers.	Ex-Pupils.
(FOR MEN.)									
"Marlborough St.,"	67	55	—	1	—	—	13	6	33
"St. Patrick's,"	165	82	—	1	—	—	34	4	41
"Church of Ireland,"	21	10	—	—	—	—	4	1	4
"De la Salle,"	198	181	—	1	—	—	27	3	102
Total,	451	228	—	3	—	—	79	14	180
(FOR WOMEN.)									
"Marlborough St.,"	314	191	—	23	24	—	188	14	114
"Our Lady of Mercy,"	661	491	—	23	10	—	147	4	14
"Church of Ireland,"	167	62	—	2	—	1	20	3	22
"St. Mary's,"	238	49	—	4	—	—	24	13	5
"Mary Immaculate,"	224	63	—	5	—	—	31	6	11
Total	1,504	849	—	57	17	1	400	39	266

* The one year's course of training for teachers in the service of the Commissioners was abolished with the commencement of the Session 1910-1911.

† Includes 1 extern.

‡ Includes 2 externs.

§ Includes 8 externs.

** Includes 3 externs.

‡ Includes 13 externs.

32. KING'S SCHOLARS in Training—Session 1913-1914.

(a.) Ordinary Course.

Name of College.	No. of King's Scholars at commencement of Session 1913-1914.	No. who remained until close of Session.	First Year's Examination of Students.		Final Examination.	
			No. Examined.	No. Passed.	No. Examined.	No. Passed.
MEN.						
" Marlborough-street,"	73	74	46	43	28 (a)	28
" St. Patrick's,"	135	151 (b)	80	76	73 (c)	71
" Church of Ireland,"	25	24	11	10	13	12
" De la Salle,"	182	182 (d)	163 (e)	161	78	73
EXTERN.						
" De la Salle,"	1 (d)	1 (d)	—	—	1	—
Total (Men), ...	415	426	240	230	134	126
WOMEN.						
" Marlborough-street,"	216	213 (f)	111 (g)	109	100	89
" Our Lady of Mercy,"	201	193 (h)	109	107	50	87
" Church of Ireland,"	110	108	52	51	26	25
" St. Mary's,"	100	99	51	51	48	48
" Mary Immaculate,"	100	100	46	46	54	54
EXTERN.						
" Marlborough-street,"	6	5	3 (i)	2	1	1
Total (Women), ...	733	724	372	367	249	241
Total (Men and Women)	1,148	1,150	612	597	383	367

* Exclusive of 4 students admitted for a third year course. See next table.

(a) Includes one first year student, who was specially allowed to take first year papers.

(b) During the session two students were re-admitted to complete a previously interrupted second year of training.

(c) One second year student absent from examinations.

(d) During the session one first year student and one second year student left; an extern student was admitted to the intern class, and two students were re-admitted to complete a previously interrupted first and second year of training respectively—the second year student being an extern.

(e) One first year student absent from examination.

(f) During the session 3 first year students and 8 second year students left; two students were re-admitted to complete a previously interrupted first year of training, and one first year extern student was admitted to the intern class.

(g) Two first year students absent from examinations.

(h) One student re-admitted during session to complete a previously interrupted second year of training.

(i) One first year extern student absent from examinations.

KING'S SCHOLARS in Training—Session 1913-14.

(b) Third Year Course.

Name of College.	No. of King's Scholars admitted for Third Year.	No. who successfully completed Course.
MEN.		
" Marlborough-street,"	4	4
" St. Patrick's,"	8	8
" De la Salle,"	15	15
Total,	27	27

33. RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS of the KING'S SCHOLARS admitted to MARLBOROUGH-STREET TRAINING COLLEGE for the Session 1914-15.

	R.C.	E.C.	Pres.	Meth.	Others.	Total.
1914-15. { King's Scholars in Residence.	80	12	176	25	2	295
{ Extern.	6	—	7	1	—	14

Trained Teachers.

34. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF TRAINED TEACHERS in the Service on 31st December, 1914, was 9,731 or 72·3 per cent. of the total number of Principal and Assistant Teachers in the Service.

35. **Colleges for the teaching of Irish.**

A payment of £5 is made to recognised colleges for the teaching of Irish in respect of each teacher who, having attended the required number of lessons, passes the examination at the end of the course and who subsequently teaches Irish satisfactorily in a public school for one year. In order to facilitate their attendance at these courses, teachers are granted vacation to the extent of 50 days in the year in which they attend a course, provided their schools are kept open for at least 200 days in such year. Seventeen colleges have been recognised, and since they were opened, 1,877 of the students have been registered as qualified to teach Irish as an ordinary or extra subject.

The following Colleges have been recognised:—

Name.	Patron or President.	Manager or Secretary.
The Four Masters College (Letterkenny).	The Most Rev. Doctor O'Donnell, Bishop of Raphoe.	Rev. M. P. Ward.
The Ulster College (Cloghaneely, Gortahork, Co. Donegal).	Dail Uladh (Ulster Gaelic Union).	Miss Ada MacNeill.
The Connacht College (Tourmakeady, Ballinrobe).	The Most Rev. Doctor Healy, Archbishop of Tuam.	Rev. B. J. Crehan, C.C.
The Munster College (Ballingeary, Macroom).	Rev. C. O'Leary, P.P., Inchigeela, Co. Cork.	Liam De Roiste, Esq.
The Ring College (Ring, Dungarvan).	The Most Rev. Doctor Sheehan, Bishop of Waterford and Lismore.	P. O'Kiely, Esq.
The Belfast College (Bank Street, Belfast).	The Most Rev. Doctor Tohill, Bishop of Down and Connor.	Rev. J. K. O'Neill, P.P.
The Leinster College (25 Rutland Square, Dublin).	—	G. A. Mooney, Esq., B.A., B.L.
The Spiddal College (Spiddal, Co. Galway).	—	Rev. T. E. MacAlinney.
The Dingle College (Dingle, Co. Kerry).	—	V. Rev. P. Canon O'Leary, D.D., P.P., V.F.
The Sligo College (Sligo).	—	P. O'Donnellan, Esq.
The Ballinasloe College (Galway).	—	Rev. P. O'Conghaile, B.A.
The Castlebar College (Co. Mayo).	The Most Rev. Doctor Healy, Archbishop of Tuam.	Rev. J. W. Mooney, C.C.
The Glendore College (Co. Cork).	The Most Rev. Doctor Kelly, Bishop of Ross. The Countess of Desart. Miss C. M. Townshend, London.	M. O'Cuilennain, Esq.
The Caherdaniel College (Co. Kerry).	—	P. O'Shea, Esq.
The Omagh College (Co. Louth).	—	Rev. M. J. Quin, P.P.
Dublin College (Kildare Street).	—	Miss Eleanor Knott.
The O'Curry College (Carrigaholt).	—	Mrs. Maire O'Donovan.
The Munster College has a recognised branch at Cork.	—	(Winter Session).
The Leinster College has recognised branches at Mullingar, Milltown Convent (Dublin) and Navan.	—	(Winter Session).
The Spiddal College has a recognised branch at Galway.	—	(Winter Session).

Compulsory Attendance Provisions of the Irish Education Act, 1892.

36. At the end of the year 1914, 232 School Attendance Committees existed, 92 in the County Boroughs, Urban Districts and Municipal Towns and 140 in Rural Districts. According to reports received from the Committees, the provisions of the Act were enforced, during the year, by 229 of these Committees. Irish Education Act, 1892.

Under the provisions of the Act, children over 6 and under 14 years of age, with certain exceptions, are required to attend school, and to make 75 complete attendances in each half-year ending respectively the 30th June and the 31st December.

There are 41 Urban Districts or Towns having municipal government, to which the provisions of the Act apply, but for which school attendance committees have not been appointed. There are 112 Rural Districts without school attendance committees.

Special Fees granted for extra or other branches.

37. RETURN showing the number of Schools in which special fees were paid for instruction given in certain branches, and the amount paid, for the school-year ended 30th June, 1914.

Branch.	Number of Schools in which fees were paid.	Amount paid.
		£ s. d.
Irish,	1,509	9,405 10 7
Bilingual Programme,	205	3,593 16 6
Mathematics,	899	4,577 19 11
Cookery,	2,637	10,243 8 6
Laundry Work,	673	2,726 10 6
Domestic Economy,	125	880 5 0
Rural Science and Horticulture,	84	468 0 0

Bilingual Programme.

38. The number of schools in which the Bilingual Programme is in operation has increased from 36 in 1906-7 to 215 in 1913-14. Of the latter number, 205 schools earned the special fee for satisfactory instruction in this programme.

Rural Science and Horticulture.

39. In the school year 1913-14 there were 99 schools with recognised school gardens attached. Fees amounting to £468 were earned by 84 of these schools for instruction in Gardening. Equipment grants to the amount of £225 10s. 5d. were made for the year, and prizes amounting to £100 were also awarded.

Merit Certificates.

40. 136 Merit Certificates, in ordinary subjects were issued during the year to pupils over 13 years of age who had been enrolled in the Seventh Standard for one year, and who had, in

the opinion of the inspectors, attained to satisfactory proficiency in English, Arithmetic, and Geography. The number of pupils enrolled in Seventh or higher Standard increased from 9,143 in 1904 to 22,973 at the end of the year 1914. As regards certificates of merit in Technical subjects awarded to pupils over 14 years of age, who had been enrolled in the sixth standard for at least one year, and who had, in the opinion of the inspectors, attained to satisfactory proficiency in the technical subject as well as in ordinary subjects of the school programme, only five certificates were issued for "Domestic Economy and Elementary Science"; whilst none appear to have been issued for "Domestic Economy," "Rural Economy and Practical Horticulture" or for "Elementary Science and Mathematics."

Half-time Pupils under the Factory and Workshop Acts.

41. On the 31st December, 1914, there were 3,668 half-time pupils on the rolls of 144 schools. These schools, with the exception of one in Cork, are in the province of Ulster (Counties of Antrim, Armagh, Down, Londonderry, Monaghan, and Tyrone). The average number of half-time pupils on the rolls of these schools for 1914 was 3,848. The average daily attendance for the year was 3,413, representing 1,707 full-time pupils in the returns of average attendance from these schools. With the exception of one school the "alternate day" system was adopted in every case.

The Reid Bequest.

42. In accordance with one of the provisions of the Reid Bequest Scheme for the advancement of education in the County Kerry, the Commissioners, having considered the answering of the monitors employed in the National Schools of that county at the annual examinations of 1914, awarded prizes as follows:—

MONITORS EXAMINED UPON FINAL YEAR PROGRAMME.

Roll No.	School.	Name of Monitor.	Prize.
1704	Rathmore Boys'	... Michael Flavin ...	1st Prize £25
9302	Glendesk ...	... Daniel O'Donoghue ...	2nd " £22
12832	Killorglin Boys'	... John Sugrue ...	3rd " £20
9630	Meentogues Boys'	... Thomas O'Connor ...	4th " £18

MONITORS (NEW CLASS) EXAMINED UPON FIRST YEAR PROGRAMME.

Roll No.	School.	Name of Monitor.	Prize.
1793	Killarney Monastery ...	John Cronin ...	1st Prize £20
3655	Miltown Monastery ...	Michael Callivan ...	2nd " £18
1793	Killarney Monastery ...	Hugh Flaherty ...	3rd " £16
2197	Spunkane Boys'	Thady Leary ...	4th " £14

THE CARLISLE AND BLAKE PREMIUM FUND.

1. The Commissioners of National Education are empowered to allocate to the teachers of ordinary National schools the interest accruing from certain funds at their disposal in premiums, to be called "The Carlisle and Blake Premiums." Teachers of Model Schools, Convent Schools, or other special schools, are not eligible for these premiums.

2. The interest from the accumulated funds available for premiums is distributed in premiums of £5 each—one for the most deserving principal teacher in each of the circuits every year, upon the following conditions:—

- (a.) that the average attendance and the regularity of the attendance of the pupils are satisfactory;
- (b.) that a fair proportion of the pupils have passed in the higher standards;
- (c.) that, if a boys' or mixed school, taught by a master in a rural district, the elements of the sciences underlying agriculture are fairly taught to the boys of the senior standards; and, if a girls' school (rural or town), needlework is carefully attended to;
- (d.) that the state of the school has been reported during the previous two years as satisfactory in respect of efficiency, moral tone, order, cleanliness, discipline, school records, supply of requisites, and observance of the Commissioners' rules.

3. No teacher is eligible for a premium more frequently than once in five years.

CARLISLE AND BLAKE PREMIUMS for the year ended 31st December, 1914.

Circuit.	Roll No. and School.	Teacher.
1	10688 Mullinshee ...	Miss Jane Watson.
2	9331 Coleraine (2) ...	Miss Agnes McCullagh.
3	15386 Whitehead ...	John McNally.
4	12777 Caledon Street ...	James H. Hutchinson.
5	13690 Cavan B. ...	Hugh Reilly.
6	15300 Clones (Fort view) ...	Henry B. Gilmore.
7	15905 Jaffe ...	Patrick McCarthy.
8	7221 Strangford ...	Thomas G. Nunan.
9	7940 Carnaross G. ...	Mrs. Margaret O'Hen.
10	15217 Ardkeerin ...	Joseph O'Hanlon.
11	11325 St. Patrick's (1) Boys' ...	Patrick O'Gorman.
12	14638 St. Andrew's Boys' ...	William O'Neill.
13	12350 Neale B. ...	James J. Ferris.
14	8446 Tallokynoe ...	Thomas O'Connor.
15	13594 Crossard G. ...	Miss Annie Spelman.
16	8099 Sellins B. ...	Cornelius Hourihane.
17	9702 St. James' B. ...	William Murphy.
18	16344 St. Mary's B. (Neenagh) ...	John O'Gorman.
19	15956 Templedigan ...	Miss Bridget Byrne.
20	10756 Ferriter Girls' ...	Miss Mary A. Manning.
21	15992 Killinane Boys' ...	Edmund Hayes.
22	5508 Douglas Girls' ...	Miss Ellen Murphy.

Irish Prizes to King's Scholars.

44. LIST of KING'S SCHOLARS in order of merit who passed their Final Year's Examination in July, 1914, and qualified for Certificates of Competency in Irish, and to whom Prizes of £5 each have been awarded.

The Training Colleges are indicated thus:—

C.S.B. "Marlborough-street" (Dublin), St. M. "St. Mary's" (Belfast),
St. P. "St. Patrick's" (Downpatrick), M.L. "Mary Immaculate" (Limerick),
O.L.M. "Our Lady of Mercy" (Blackrock), D.L.S. "De La Salle" (Waterford).

County.	Roll No.	School.	Name of King's Scholar.	Training College
Cork ...	14580	Ballingeary ...	Timothy McCarthy	St. P.
Louth ...	5387	Dundalk Convent ...	Delia O'Flaherty ...	St. M.
Cork ...	12976	Derrincoerin ...	Michael Harrington	D.L.S.
Tipperary	8874	Youghalarra ...	Johanna Nealon ...	M.I.
Donegal ...	4738	Roshine ...	John Coll	St. P.
Donegal ...	15706	Goetnabrade ...	Patrick Gallagher...	St. P.
Cork ...	12218	Clarence St. Convent...	Mary Bastible ...	O.L.M.
Cork ...	3828	Youghal Convent ...	Mary Kavanagh ...	St. M.
Donegal ...	10371	Cruit Island...	Patrick McBride ...	D.L.S.
Cork ...	—	St. Colman's College ...	Jeremiah Linchan	St. P.
Queen's ...	918	Castletown ...	Bro. Thomas Power	D.L.S.
Waterford	15046	St. Stephen's Monastery	Robert Sexton ...	D.L.S.
Monaghan	15402	Monaghan Convent, Inf.	Kathleen O'Rourke	O.L.M.
Kerry ...	14480	St. Brendan's ...	Edward Keane ...	St. P.
Tipperary	2670	Nodstown ...	Matthew Kennedy	D.L.S.
Mayo ...	13383	Shraigh ...	Patrick Mills ...	St. P.
Mayo ...	15555	Brenny ...	Richard L. Wall ...	D.L.S.
Dublin ...	2018	Baggot Street Convent	Eileen Long ...	O.L.M.
Galway ...	13208	Gort Convent ...	Bridget Murray ...	O.L.M.
Mayo ...	14850	Belmullet B. ...	Thomas Padden ...	St. P.
Galway ...	15316	Nun's Island ...	Gerard R. Lee ...	D.L.S.
Cork ...	1692	Finnmount ...	Michael Murphy ...	D.L.S.
Cork ...	7651	Clonakilty Convent ...	Mary A. Hayes ...	M.I.
Kerry ...	14025	Rockfield B. ...	Margaret O'Brien...	O.L.M.
Cork ...	529	Myrtleville ...	James Murphy ...	D.L.S.
Limerick	—	Laurel Hill Convent ...	Catherine O'Sullivan	M.I.
Westmeath	9196	Milltown ...	Roseanne Moffatt...	St. M.
Tipperary	10120	Cahir Convent ...	Brigid Long ...	M.I.
Waterford	15046	St. Stephen's Monastery	Thomas Murray ...	D.L.S.
Kerry ...	5170	Castlemaine G. ...	Mary Sheehan ...	O.L.M.

In addition to the above, the undermentioned King's Scholars also passed the examination, but, being already certificated in Irish, were ineligible for the award of a prize:—

James Green (St. P.), Ransfess N.S., Co. Donegal, Roll No. 15927.

Margaret Gallagher (O.L.M.), Ballintru N.S., Co. Donegal, Roll No. 8699.

Hanora M. Corcoran (O.L.M.), Coombola N.S., Co. Cork, Roll No. 11743.

45. SCIENCE EQUIPMENT GRANTS MADE IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1914-15.

Elementary Science Equipment Grants were made to 54 schools to the total amount of £419 0s. 0d. (including £4 10s. 0d. locally subscribed).

In 97 other cases grants were sanctioned, but, owing to the war, it has not yet been found possible to supply the equipment.

46. Attached hereto is our financial statement for the year ended the 31st March, 1915.

47. We submit this, as our Report for the year 1914-15, to Your Excellency, and in testimony thereof have caused our seal to be hereunto affixed this 10th day of July, 1916.



W. J. DILWORTH,	}	<i>Secretaries.</i>
A. N. BONAPARTE WYSE,		

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT

FROM

1st APRIL, 1914, TO 31st MARCH, 1915,

SHOWING THE FUNDS AT THE DISPOSAL

OF

THE COMMISSIONERS

OF

NATIONAL EDUCATION, IRELAND,

AND HOW THESE FUNDS HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED.

D. FRIZZELL,

Accountant.

The following STATEMENT of ACCOUNT will show the FUNDS at
have been

Charge.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
The Balance on 1st April, 1914, ...	—			5,246	4	1
PARLIAMENTARY GRANT.						
Ordinary Grant, 1914-1915, ...	1,471,681	0	0			
Special Grant in aid of Teachers' Pension Fund ...	56,546	0	0			
School Grant, ...	241,000	0	0			
				1,769,227	0	0
<i>Grant from Ireland Development Fund</i> ...				258	0	0
APPROPRIATIONS IN AID.						
Miscellaneous Receipts in aid of the Vote for 1914-1915 ...				642	1	2
MISCELLANEOUS.						
Private Contribution Fund :—						
Dividends on Legacies and Donations (private contributions) invested in Government Securities, ...				366	10	4
School Fees received from Pupils attending Model Schools				1,422	18	4
Sundry repayments of moneys due to the account of the Vote of previous year, ...				161	15	0
Income Tax deductions, payable to Inland Revenue Department, ...				1,753	4	2
Stoppages from Quarterly Salaries of Teachers of one-fourth Premiums for Pensions under Act 42 & 43 Vic., c. 74, 1879				24,997	8	11
Premiums of Insurance of Sundry Officers in Service of Board (North British and Mercantile Insurance Company),				1,577	0	8
Carried forward ...				1,805,652	8	8

the disposal of the COMMISSIONERS in 1914-1915, and how they distributed :—

Discharge.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Office in Dublin :						
Salaries and Wages,	26,157	17	8			
Travelling Expenses,	842	5	3			
Legal Expenses,	841	14	8			
Rent,	115	7	8			
Incidental Expenses,	491	13	7			
				28,448	18	10
Inspection :						
Salaries,	33,940	17	8			
Travelling and Personal Allowances,	15,495	4	10			
				49,436	2	0
Training :						
Marlborough Street Training College,	13,474	13	3			
Training Colleges, under local management (a)	50,169	2	4			
Prizes to King's Scholars for Irish, &c.,	1,606	10	0			
				65,250	5	7
Model Schools (Special Expenditure—Maintenance, and Special Teachers, &c.),						
				3,969	18	0
National Schools Generally :						
Salaries and Capitation payments in Ordinary and Model Schools, Day and Evening, of Principal and Assistant Teachers, Junior Assistant Mistresses, Workmistresses, and Monitors; also fees for Special Subjects.	1,525,576	3	8			
Retiring Gratuities,	316	17	5			
Incidental Expenditure,	753	3	8			
Free Grants of Books and School Requisites (b)	399	6	0			
School Fees paid to Model School Teachers,	1,422	4	11			
Heating and cleansing of Schools,	17,899	11	0			
Dental treatment of School children,	801	2	8			
				1,547,170	9	10
Miscellaneous :						
Easter and July Examination Expenses,	505	0	11			
Organizing Teachers,	758	9	8			
				1,263	10	7
Carried forward,				£1,695,539	5	10

(a) Includes £338 6s. 6d. paid out of Grant from Ireland Development Fund towards cost of additional King's Scholars in "Our Lady of Mercy" and "De la Salle" Training Colleges.

(b) The total Free Books granted in 1914-15 amounted to £194 2s. 11d. as follows:—Ordinary National Schools, £399 6s. 6d.; Model Schools, £94 16s. 5d.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT—continued.

	£	s.	d.
Brought forward, ...	£1,805,652	8	8
<hr/>			
Total, ...	£1,805,652	8	8

EXPENDITURE during the Year—continued.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward ...	—			1,605,339	5	10
Manual and Practical Instruction						
Salaries, Travelling, &c., ...	10,648	7	3			
Equipment Grants, ...	920	13	3			
				11,569	0	6
Moieties of Rentcharge of Teachers' Residences repaid by Commissioners, ...	—			6,865	0	4
Private Contribution Fund, Payment to Schools from, ...	—			206	18	10
Grant in aid of Teachers' Pension Fund, paid over to Teachers' Pension Office, ...	—			56,546	0	0
Income Tax :						
Payments to Inland Revenue Department of deductions for Income Tax, ...	—			1,630	19	2
Payment to Pensions Fund of amounts stopped from Quarterly Salaries of Teachers, under the Act 42 & 43 Vic., c. 74, 1879, ...	—			24,997	8	11
Insurance Premiums paid over to North British and Mercantile Insurance Co.,...	—			1,577	6	8
Balance of Parliamentary Vote of 1913-1914 surrendered, ...	—			3,908	1	2
Recoveries Account debit for 1913-14: being payment from vote for 1913-14 disallowed on audit and charged provisionally to Recoveries Account pending refund from teacher, ...	—				1	15 0
Balance on 31st March, 1915 ...				2,720	12	3
Total ...				£1,805,652	8	8

NAMES OF THE COMMISSIONERS
OF
NATIONAL EDUCATION IN IRELAND
On June 30th, 1915

ACCORDING TO THE DATES OF THEIR RESPECTIVE APPOINTMENTS.

	YEAR OF APPOINTMENT.
Sir HENRY BELLINGHAM, Bart., M.A., LL.D., H.M. Lieutenant,	1890
Rev. HENRY EVANS, D.D.,	1890
Sir STANLEY HARRINGTON, B.A., R.U.I., J.P., ...	1895
Right Hon. WILLIAM JOSEPH MYLES STARRIE, M.A., LITT.D., LL.D. (<i>Resident Commissioner</i>), ...	1899
Right Hon. LORD FREDERICK FITZGERALD, ...	1902
Rev. DAVID A. TAYLOR, M.A., D.D.,	1902
Right Hon. LORD KILANIN, LL.D.,	1904
Most Rev. PATRICK FOLEY, D.D., Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin:	1905
GERALD DEASE, Esq., D.L.,	1905
Right Hon. Mr. JUSTICE ROSS, LL.D.,	1905
RICHARD BAGWELL, Esq., M.A., LITT.D., D.L., ...	1905
Rev. JOHN C. CLARKE, D.D., Ex-Moderator of the General Assembly,	1908
Right Hon. LAURENCE AMBROSE WALDEON, ...	1909
DAVID M. MORLARTY, Esq., B.A.,	1910
JOHN A. McCLELLAND, Esq., M.A. DSC., F.R.S., ...	1910
PHILIP WARD, Esq., J.P.,	1910
Right Rev. MAURICE DAY, D.D., Bishop of Clogher,...	1911
Rev. ROBERT MILLER, M.A.,	1913
ROBERT DONOVAN, Esq., B.A.,	1915
WILLIAM E. THEFT, Esq., M.A., F.T.C.D.	1915

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APPENDIX TO FIRST REPORT. Minutes of Evidence, 13th February to 12th March, 1913. With Appendices. The system of National Education in Ireland. Circulars issued by the Board of National Education. Duties of Chief Inspectors, &c.

[Cd. 6829] of Session 1913. Price 1s. 10d., post free 2s. 2d.

SECOND REPORT. Submits a further instalment of the minutes of evidence taken.

[Cd. 7228] of Session 1914. Price $\frac{1}{2}$ d., post free 1d.

APPENDIX TO SECOND REPORT. Minutes of Evidence, 13th March to 25th June, 1913. With Appendices:—Statements, &c., handed in by Witnesses, forwarded by the Board of National Education, &c. With Index to this volume and to the Appendix to First Report.

[Cd. 7229] of Session 1914. Price 4s. 8d., post free 5s. 2d.

THIRD REPORT. Submits a further instalment of the Minutes of Evidence taken.

[Cd. 7479] of Session 1914-16. Price $\frac{1}{2}$ d., post free 1d.

APPENDIX TO THIRD REPORT. Minutes of Evidence, 26th June to 17th December, 1913. Appendices:—Belfast National Teachers' Organization; Corporal Punishment; Penalties for Inefficiency; Paper-promotion; Merit-Marks; Extract from pamphlet entitled, "Inspection of Schools and Promotion of Teachers. Exposure of Present System."

[Cd. 7480] of Session 1914. Price 3s. 11d., post free 4s. 4d.

FINAL REPORT. Part I. Inspection; Part II. Teachers; Part III. Relations of Board and Teachers; Part IV. Teachers' means of access to the Board; Summary; Recommendations.

[Cd. 7235] of Session 1914. Price 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., post free 7d.

INTERMEDIATE EDUCATION BOARD FOR IRELAND

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1914.

Statistics. New Act. Inspections and Examinations. Accounts. Appendices:—Localities in which Examinations were held; List of Schools, with Number of Pupils, Amount of School Grant, Bounties for Music, &c.

[Cd. 8008] of Session 1914-16. Price 3d., post free, 4d.

RULES AND SCHEDULES containing the Programme of Examinations for 1917.

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